

# SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

## Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

### February, 2002

*This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Twelfth Plymouth Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2001.*

### Residents of Twelfth Plymouth Representative District

#### Treatment Admissions:

In FY 2001, there were 120,687 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts. Of these, 1.3% (1,620) reside in the Twelfth Plymouth Representative District. Due to budget cuts in FY 2002, BSAS estimates that 19% (308) of Twelfth Plymouth Representative District residents will not be able to access treatment services. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.**

- In FY 2001, 73.8% of admissions from the Twelfth Plymouth Representative District were male and 26.2% were female.
- Over 59.8% of admissions were between the ages of 21-39.
- 91.6% of admissions were white non-Latino, 2.6% were black non-Latino, 2.9% were Latino, 0.2% were Asians, and 2.5% were other racial categories.
- 56.2% of those admitted to treatment were never married, 18% were married, and 18.5% reported not to be married now.
- 23% of admissions had less than high school education, 52.4% completed high school, and 24.6% had more than high school education.
- 42.5% of those admitted to treatment were employed.
- 10.7% of those admitted were homeless.
- 11.8% of admissions had prior mental health treatment.

#### Substances Used in Past Year:

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as 'polydrug' or 'polysubstance' use. For example, individuals who use cocaine, crack and heroin also may report the use of either alcohol and/or marijuana.

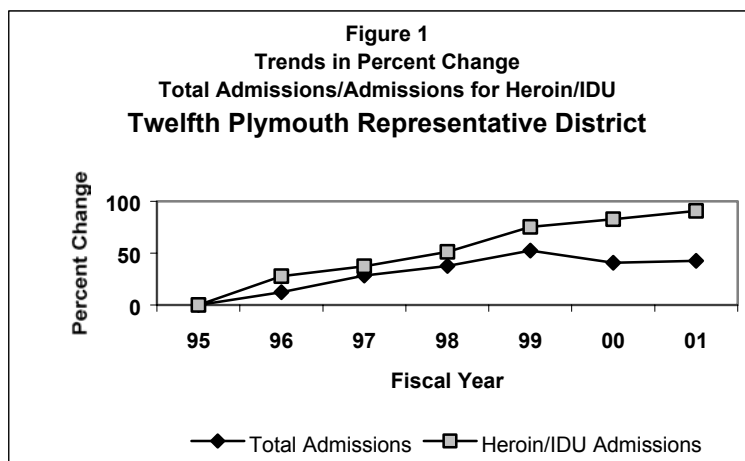
- Table 1 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, including the prevalence of injection drug use (IDU) in the Twelfth Plymouth Representative District. Injection drug users (or IDU's) are individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 1 Annual Admissions by Substance Used FY 1995 – FY 2001							
Twelfth Plymouth Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	1,135	983	420	341	179	198	134
FY '96	1,275	1,050	473	348	186	242	182
FY '97	1,456	1,188	527	382	213	265	191
FY '98	1,563	1,255	482	358	172	297	205
FY '99	1,730	1,399	575	451	209	339	243
FY '00	1,597	1,212	508	403	191	358	249
FY '01	1,620	1,273	528	355	162	382	251

- Since FY 1995, residents of Twelfth Plymouth Representative District reported a steady increase in alcohol and marijuana use, with a notable peak in FY 1999. Alcohol use increased by 29% and marijuana use by 25%.
- Between FY 1995 and FY 2001, admissions reporting cocaine use remained steady, while heroin use increased by 92%, and crack use decreased by 15%.

### Heroin and Injection Drug Use:

Figure 1 below shows the proportional increases in all admissions in the Twelfth Plymouth Representative District and the proportional increase in admissions reporting heroin and injection drug use, a factor driving increases in HIV<sup>1</sup>.



- Total treatment admission for all modalities rose 42.7% between FY 1995 and FY 2001. During the same period, admissions for heroin and injection drug use treatment increased by 90.6%.

### Primary Substance of Use:

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use which is the substance currently causing them the most problems.

- Table 2 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Twelfth Plymouth Representative District.

	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	61.4 %	21.5%	6.8%	3.6%	2.2%
State	46.5%	35.9%	6.5%	3.9%	3.4%

- While marijuana and cocaine as a primary drug of use in your Representative District was level with the State average, alcohol as a primary drug was higher, and, heroin and crack was lower within your District.

<sup>1</sup> The Schneider Institute for Health Policy, Brandeis University, 2000